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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/772,428	02/06/2004	Mamoru Kosuge	Q79493	2055

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EXAMINER

HEITBRINK, JILL LYNNE

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1732

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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06/21/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/772,428

Applicant(s)

KOSUGE ET AL.

Examiner

Jill L. Heitbrink

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 March 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4,6-9 and 11-17 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4,6-9 and 11-17 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 06 February 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-4, 6-9, 11 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over applicant's disclosed prior art taken together with Naito et al. Pat. No. 5,656,307.
3. Applicant discloses the injection molding of a vehicle headlamp by simultaneously molding the extension reflector and the inner lens. Naito teaches the molding of the accessory components in a cavity with the larger component around the smaller component so as to produce the components at the same time and reduce the number of molds for producing the components. It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to apply the teaching of Naito to applicant's disclosed prior art so as to reduce the number of molding steps and the number of molds. Both references deal with the injection molding of multiple components and thus are combinable.
4. Claims 12-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over applicant's disclosed prior art taken together with Naito et al. Pat. No. 5,656,307 as applied to claims 1-11, 17 and 18 above, and further in view of Wiedemann et al. Pat. No. 6,866,808.

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5. Wiedemann teaches the resin passing from a first cavity to a second cavity. It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to pass the material from a first cavity to a second cavity so as to reduce the amount of waste when feeding the material through multiple runners. It would have been obvious to apply the teaching of Wiedemann to applicant's disclosed prior art and Naito depending upon the shape of the article so as to produce the least amount of waste by using shorter distances in the connecting runners.

6. Claims 14-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over applicant's disclosed prior art taken together with Naito et al. Pat. No. 5,656,307 as applied to claims 1-11, 17 and 18 above, and further in view of Goldbach Pat. No. 6,780,365.

7. Goldbach teaches the injection of a first resin into a first mold cavity and a second resin into a second mold cavity via separate supply passages. It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to combine the teaches of Naito with Goldbach since the teaching of reduction of the size of the molds and the number of molds and steps of molding by Naito would have clearly been applicable when molding with a first and second resin into separate cavities on the same parting plane.

Response to Arguments

8. Applicant's arguments filed March 29, 2007 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

9. Applicant argues that a person of ordinary skill in the art vehicular lamp assemblies would not have looked to Naito since it deals with cabinet assemblies, not

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withstanding that the reference relates to injection molding. The examiner disagrees.

When looking at improving the injection molding of vehicular headlamps, a person would look to a person skilled in the art of injection molding, and not just the specific mold for molding vehicular headlamps. When making the mold and processes the injection molding machine, a person in the art of injection mold manufacturing would have been the person of skill in the art.

10. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jill L. Heitbrink whose telephone number is (571) 272-1199. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 9 am -2 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Christina Johnson can be reached on (571) 272-1176. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.


Jill L. Heitbrink
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1732

jlh